IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 8, 22, 23 and 24, without prejudice or disclaimer, since these claims are being canceled merely to better define the issues in this matter.

Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

7. (Presently Amended) A method for expressing an increased number of B7 molecules on the surface of an antigen presenting cell to enhance or regulate an immune system comprising the steps of:

obtaining an upregulating agent comprising β1, 3 glucans;

administering the said upregulating agent to an organism; and,

allowing an upregulation of B7 molecules on [a] said antigen presenting cell whereby an expression of the B7 molecules allows reaction with an effector cell, the reaction with the armed effector cell potentiating an immune response.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Presently Amended) The method of Claim 7 wherein [the cells are] said antigen presenting cells are selected from the group [comprising] consisting essentially of macrophages, B lymphocytes, and dendritic cells, and combinations thereof.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the effector cell is a lymphocyte.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10 wherein the lymphocyte is a T-lymphocyte.

12. (Presently Amended) The method of Claim 7 wherein the B7 molecule is selected from the group consisting essentially of [comprising] B7.1, B7.2, B7h, B7-H1, B7-DC, [and] B7-H3, and combinations thereof.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the upregulating agent is administered as a pharmacological agent.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13 wherein the pharmacological agent is a tablet.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 13 wherein the pharmacological agent is a capsule.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 13 wherein the pharmacological agent is a powder.

17. (Original) The method of Claims 13 wherein the pharmacological agent is a liquid.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Newly Added) A method for expressing an increased number of B7 molecules on the surface of an antigen presenting cell to enhance or regulate an immune system comprising the steps of:

obtaining an upregulating agent comprising β1, 6 glucans;

administering the said upregulating agent to an organism; and,

allowing an upregulating of B7 molecules on a cell whereby an expression of the B7 molecules allows reaction with an effector cell, the reaction with the armed effector cell potentiating an immune response.

26. (Newly Added) The method of Claim 25, wherein said antigen presenting cells are selected from the group consisting essentially of macrophages, B lymphocytes, dendritic cells, and combinations thereof.

27. (Newly Added) The method of Claim 25 wherein the effector cell is a lymphocyte.

28. (Newly Added) The method of claims 27 wherein the lymphocyte is a T-lymphocyte.

29. (Newly Added) (Presently Amended) The method of Claim 25 wherein the B7 molecule is selected from the group consisting essentially of B7.1, B7.2, B7h, B7-H1, B7-DC, and B7-H3, and combinations thereof.

30. (Newly Added) The method of Claim 25 wherein the upregulating agent is administered as a pharmacological agent.

31. (Newly Added) The method of Claim 30 wherein the pharmacological agent is a tablet.

32. (Newly Added) The method of Claim 30 wherein the pharmacological agent is a capsule.

33. (Newly Added) The method of Claim 30 wherein the pharmacological agent is a capsule.

34. (Newly Added) The method of Claim 30 wherein the pharmacological agent is a powder.

35. (Newly Added) The method of Claims 30 wherein the pharmacological agent is a liquid.

36. (Newly Added) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said β-1,3 glucans are microparticulate and are in the size range of about 1 micron in diameter.

37. (Newly Added) The method according to Claim 25, wherein said β-1,6 glucans are microparticulate and are in the size range of about 1 micron in diameter.